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ABSTRACT

Intended primarily for new teachers or teachers newly involved with special education, this guide to development of individualized education programs (IEPs) notes recent trends in special education including the shift from a categorical basis to a skill needs basis, the goal of maximum inclusion, greater involvement of regular educators and parents, a greater emphasis on transition to adult life, and more sophisticated IEP tools. The 10 chapters address the following topics: (1) the rationale behind the IEP; (2) six steps of the pre-referral process; (3) conducting the IEP meeting; (4) writing the finished product, including a variety of sample forms; (5) the placement conference, including common questions and documenting the individual placement decision; (6) early childhood education and the extended school year with sample forms; (7) the transition IEP, including principles and necessary components; (8) implementing the IEP, including grading policy, the importance of active direct teaching, and expanded services; (9) program management, which provides a supervisor's checklist; and (10) tips for parents. Appendices include checklists, a glossary, sample IEPs, and sample schedules. (DB)

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